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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of:)		RECEIVED
NOBORU HAMADA	:		
	:		FEB 2 6 2003
Application No.: 09/588,672)		Technology Center 2100
Filed: June 6, 2000)		
For: NETWORK DEVICE	:)		
MANAGING APPARATUS	:		
AND METHOD	.)	February 24, 2003	

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents listed are also enclosed.

Europe 1049291 Europe 0896454 Europe 0878935 Europe 0455402

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report dated February 6, 2003 is enclosed.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Moreover, in light of the date of the European Search Report, it is hereby submitted that the foregoing references were first cited in a foreign counterpart application not more than three months before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent

the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to

determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally,

the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

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our below-listed address.